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COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
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ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC AND SUPPLY, INCLUDING REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

World situation with regard to illicit drug trafficking

Report of the Secretariat

Addendum

REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Summary

The present addendum to the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to illicit drug trafficking reflects the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation in the region of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East. Various matters calling for action by or brought to the attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs are contained in the report of the Subcommission on its thirty-second session, which is before the Commission.

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I. MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY OR BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

A. Draft resolutions to be recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

1. The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East recommends to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs the approval of the following draft resolutions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Baku Accord on Regional Cooperation against Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, Distribution and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The Economic and Social Council*,

"*Convinced* that the Baku Accord on Regional Cooperation against Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, Distribution and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors, will contribute to the enhancement of the struggle against illicit trafficking in drugs,

"1. *Takes note* of the Baku Accord on Regional Cooperation against Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, Distribution and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

"2. *Urges* Member States, in accordance with the provisions of the Baku Accord, to take all appropriate measures at the national and international levels to continue to combat the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in all its forms;

"3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to inform all Member States, relevant specialized agencies and entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations of the adoption of the Baku Accord;

"4. *Urges* Member States to take all necessary measures to implement the Baku Accord in accordance with their national legislation;

"5. *Invites* Member States to promote public campaigns, including the use of the mass media, to enhance public awareness of drug abuse and drug prevention programmes.

"ANNEX

"Baku Accord on Regional Cooperation against Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, Distribution and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors

"*A. Nature and extent of the problem*

"1. The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East opened its thirty-second session at Baku on 17 February 1997 with an expanded membership, better representing the diverse character of the region as a whole and of its subregions, and affording greater possibilities for more in-depth discussion of the illicit drug-trafficking situation and its impact on the region, and of new cooperative modalities for effective counteraction. The new composition of the Subcommission is indicative of global developments in illicit drug trafficking, which are reflected in conditions in some States in the Near and Middle East.

"2. The expanding and complex system of global organized drug crime, involving cultivation, production, trafficking, distribution and consumption activities, which penetrate various sectors, has already left its mark on the region. Associated criminal activities, especially narcotics-related terrorism and the arms trade, have assumed alarming proportions, in spite of law enforcement efforts.

"3. The consequences of illicit drug trafficking in the Near and Middle East are a mirror image of developments at the global level, characterized by the erosion of the hard-won benefits of development, the diversion of some countries from their developmental path, the destabilization of the socio-economic order, the destruction of the moral and social fabric of society and the undermining of the quality of life of the peoples of the region.

"4. As the illicit traffic in and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are serious and growing concerns in the region, the development of an accurate annual estimate of the situation and trends is essential to the successful development and implementation of regional strategies and subregional programmes. An accurate assessment of the magnitude and dimensions of the illicit drug problem in the region is the necessary starting point for both rational policy-making and the promotion of public awareness. In the absence of a reliable and comprehensive intelligence assessment, substantial misconceptions might arise and resources might be misallocated. Moreover, early detection and subsequent action aimed at controlling emerging problems might become extremely difficult.

"*B. Declaration*

"*We, representatives of the States members of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East,*

"*Having gathered* at the thirty-second session of the Subcommission, held at Baku from 17 to 21 February 1997, to consider the Baku Accord on Regional Cooperation against Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, Distribution and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors,

"*Deeply concerned* about the spread of drug abuse in the region and its effects on youth and on future generations,

"*Also deeply concerned* about the rising illicit cultivation of narcotic crops and illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, which pose the main threat to the political, economic, social and cultural structure and stability of the region,

"*Reaffirming* our commitment to combat the multidimensional problems involving illicit drugs,

"*Convinced* that concerted action and comprehensive, well-coordinated programmes are the only means by which to fight problems involving illicit drugs,

"*Have agreed* on the following:

"1. Nationally and regionally coordinated strategies should be developed for the implementation of the mandates and recommendations contained in the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session,[1] on 23 February 1990, the Tehran Declaration adopted by the ministerial-level conference at the twenty-eighth session of the Subcommission, held at Tehran in 1993, and other relevant international drug control instruments;

"2. Training in the field of drug law enforcement is a priority for many States of the region, and interested national authorities should seek the assistance of competent intergovernmental bodies in the development of inter-agency, multidisciplinary training courses for law enforcement officials of the region, taking into account socio-economic differences, as well as evaluating on an ongoing basis the relevance and impact of all training material and programmes in their respective national circumstances;

"3. Efforts should be made by the international community and intergovernmental bodies and organizations to establish cooperative relations with the authorities in Afghanistan in order to assist in the eradication of illicit cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, especially in the drug-producing areas of the country, and to provide them with packages of aid and the means of economic reform, such as human development and capacity-building, mobilization of resources and industrial

development to enable them to resort to alternative sources of income, which would provide better economic possibilities for future generations;

"4. Focal points should be established in the capital cities of States members of the Subcommission in order to improve cooperation and coordination at the national and regional levels, and their titles and addresses should be communicated to their counterparts in the region to enable them to undertake the following action:

"(*a*) To discuss with each other, as frequently as necessary, operational drug-control matters and other modi operandi;

"(*b*) To develop drug intelligence networks to ensure the rapid and secure exchange of information on all illicit drug-trafficking operations;

"(*c*) To share expertise and knowledge in drug law enforcement;

"(*d*) To promote field visits for drug-control officers in the region in order to build up mutual confidence and trust, which are conducive to smooth operations;

"(*e*) To exchange information on drug-trafficking trends and trend indicators, as well as intelligence information on the movement of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, precursors and methods of concealing assets, bearing in mind the fact that criminal organizations employ a wide range of sophisticated financial mechanisms, including corporate entities and offshore financial havens, to conceal the origin of their funds;

"(*f*) To exchange skills and techniques used in the detection, investigation and suppression of offences involving illicit drug trafficking and the collection of evidence;

"(*g*) To cooperate and coordinate efforts towards the use of controlled delivery in cases relating to trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors and to money-laundering;

"(*h*) To harmonize drug legislation, in particular with regard to the application of adequate penalties for drug offences;

"(*i*) To facilitate mutual cooperation regarding the identification, seizure, forfeiture and sharing of proceeds proven to be derived from drug-related criminality;

"5. All States should be urged to take effective action to control and prevent the diversion of substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as the materials and equipment used in their manufacture. In particular, States of the region should:

"(*a*) Consider notifying the Secretary-General, under the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[2] article 12, paragraph 10 (a), that any country exporting to them a substance in Table I of the Convention should supply them with advance notification of such export, and request that such notification be extended to cover substances in Table II as well;

"(*b*) If they are exporters of substances in Table I or II of the 1988 Convention, accede to the request of the International Narcotics Control Board to provide such pre-export notifications voluntarily to importing countries, even in the absence of a specific request for such notification;

"6. States of the region should require import authorizations for all substances in Schedules III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971;[3]

"7. All States in the region should be urged to adopt further legislative and administrative measures to prevent and sanction money-laundering;

"8. All States members of the Subcommission should be urged to make every effort to ensure that the present Accord becomes generally known and is observed and implemented in full in accordance with their domestic laws;

"9. The international community should be requested to assist and cooperate in the development of illicit crop eradication programmes and to promote alternative development programmes;

"10. As proposed in the international drug control treaties, the international community, including intergovernmental bodies, should assist transit countries in enhancing their capabilities to suppress illicit drug trafficking;

"11. The international community, including intergovernmental bodies, should provide financial assistance to States of the region that lack technical equipment, and in which the Government exercises control over licit drugs and combats illicit trafficking;

"12. To stem the flow of illicit drugs, reducing illicit drug demand is as important as reducing illicit drug supply and trafficking. Significant progress in drug control cannot be made without that balanced approach. Prevention and demand reduction must be intensified and accorded the high priority that they deserve;

"13. Comprehensive preventive programmes must be designed to emphasize a multisectoral and intersectoral approach as an integral part of national development planning. They should focus on protecting young people, who are at risk of becoming consumers and traffickers, and should safeguard their well-being and quality of life, thereby maintaining a drug-free society. Using all preventive, educational, medical and legal information available, such programmes should raise the awareness of youth of the negative consequences of drug abuse and should be tailored individually to target specific groups of potential young abusers;

"14. In order to maintain the traditional privacy of the family recognized in most States in the region, States members of the Subcommission should consider ensuring anonymity to any abuser who undergoes medical examination, treatment and rehabilitation;

"15. All States should be called upon to strengthen their national legal and judicial systems in conformity with the existing international drug control treaties, in order to improve and carry out effective drug-control activities in cooperation with other States;

"16. States in the region should consider facilitating the extradition of persons accused of drug-trafficking offences and refrain from granting political asylum or other forms of protection to such persons;

"17. All States should recognize the negative impact on anti-trafficking activities by customs, border-control and law enforcement authorities created by absence or loss of effective exercise of sovereignty in any part of a State because of internal strife, foreign occupation or other causes, which may give rise to illicit transit traffic in drugs, and should condemn any violation of national borders and territorial integrity;

"18. The Subcommission should continue to meet on an annual basis in a capital city of the region;

"19. The Secretary-General is invited to consider, upon request by interested Governments, how the various elements contained in the present Accord might be carried out, and to examine with them the most suitable modalities for following up appropriate activities, at the national, regional and international levels;

"20. The Secretary-General is also invited to transmit the text of the present Accord to all States Members of the United Nations to serve as a background document for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, to be held in June 1998.

"[1]See resolution S-17/2, annex.

"[2]*Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

"[3]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956."

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Working languages of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The Economic and Social Council*,

"*Recalling* its decision 1993/246 of 27 July 1993 and its decision 1996/248 of 23 July 1996, by which it authorized the enlargement of the membership of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East,

"*Noting* that, of a total membership of 24 States, six States, namely Azerbaijan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan use Russian as the working lingua franca of their drug law enforcement agencies,

"1. *Decides* that the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East shall use Arabic, English and Russian as its working languages for future sessions;

"2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to adopt the necessary measures and provide the financial resources required for the implementation of the present resolution."

B. Recommendations adopted by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East at its thirty-second session

2. The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, at its thirty-second Session, adopted the recommendations presented below, which were drawn up by its working groups on the issues covered in their deliberations.

1. Illicit drug trafficking by sea and smuggling of drugs in containers

3. The following recommendations were adopted on issue 1:

(a) States in the region should be encouraged to establish a container programme operated by experienced officers and supported by inter-agency personnel;

(b) States in the region should encourage their drug law enforcement agencies to enter into memoranda of understanding with carriers and freight forwarders to develop commercial information and mutual cooperation;

(c) The United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) should establish a container profiling programme financed from a special fund set up by means of contributions by Governments of any confiscated assets of convicted drug traffickers.

2. Review of the establishment and functioning of a cooperation mechanism in the region

4. The following recommendations were adopted on issue 2:

(a) UNDCP should be invited to assist States members of the Subcommission that are currently unable to fight drug abuse because of a lack of financial and technical resources;

(b) The secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization should act in the future as coordinator between its member States in drug control matters;

(c) States members of the Subcommission are encouraged to exchange information between one another directly, while also reporting the information to the relevant international organizations.

3. Exchange of views and information on drug-trafficking organizations

5. The working group did not make any specific recommendations other than those logically implied in its observations and conclusions.

4. Illicit trafficking in precursors

6. The following recommendations, relating in particular to States exporting and importing precursor chemicals as well as transit States, were made on issue 4:

(a) Each State in the region should undertake a national survey on its legitimate annual requirements for substances listed in Tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[1] and report on the survey to UNDCP;

(b) All States in the region should undertake to notify the importing State as well as transit States with regard to shipments of precursor chemicals prior to those shipments, so as to allow sufficient monitoring of movements within the region;

(c) UNDCP should assist in the further development of precursor control procedures in States that require assistance (involving mainly importing and transit States);

(d) The International Narcotics Control Board should improve its cooperation with States in the region in the monitoring of precursor chemicals and, in particular, the identification of suspicious and illicit shipments (involving importing and transit States);

(e) UNDCP should compile specific information on the precursor control schemes and requirements in place in each State in the region prior to the next session of the Subcommission and report thereon prior to the next session. This would ensure that during the thirty-third session a review of the status of precursor control and further specific requirements can be undertaken in a working group on this subject;

(f) In response to a generous offer by the delegation of Egypt, States members of the Subcommission should establish formal contacts with the competent Egyptian authorities to obtain regular information on movements of precursor chemicals through the Suez Canal. Other States within the region of the Subcommission that are in a legal position to do so are encouraged to provide similar assistance and information to other member States on shipments through their territories and territorial waters (involving mainly transit States).

5. Illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of drugs in the region

7. The following recommendations, which constitute an action plan for Afghanistan, were made on issue 5:

(a) Political and public awareness of the dramatic and destructive effects of illicit opium production should be enhanced, having recourse to farmers, regional and religious leaders, tribal heads and rural communities;

(b) Governments extending financial support on a bilateral basis and UNDCP should be invited to advise the Government and community leaders of the need to introduce sustainable eradication and development programmes, including the enactment of strict national laws against illicit drug cultivation providing for severe punishment of offenders;

(c) A major assistance programme should be directed at farmers in areas of illicit cultivation to encourage them to plant licit crops, and should include: seminars and workshops to upgrade farming techniques and skills; the establishment of loan and credit systems for farmers taking part in the crop substitution campaign; and the supply of new farming equipment.

C. Resignation of Sweden as a member of the Subcommission

8. In a letter dated 13 February 1997 addressed to the Chairman of the Subcommission at its thirty-second session, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden tendered the resignation of Sweden as a member of the Subcommission. Sweden was one of the five founding members (with Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan and Turkey) and had played an important liaison role in the early years of the Subcommission. Now that the Subcommission had expanded into a wide-ranging regional group, the Government of Sweden considered that it would be appropriate for Sweden, as a State outside the region, to resign its membership. The Subcommission, noting with appreciation the contributions of Sweden to the early development of its work, accepted its resignation with understanding.

II. MAJOR THEMES COVERED BY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUBCOMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

9. A major outcome of the thirty-second session of the Subcommission was the Baku Accord, the focus of which was regional and cross-regional collaboration on a range of technical matters concerning illicit cultivation, production, distribution, trafficking and consumption of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Through that instrument, States members of the Subcommission also renewed their commitment to combat the multidimensional aspects of illicit drug trafficking. It is envisaged that the Accord will provide the basis for stepping up concerted measures to suppress illicit drugs through a multidisciplinary, inter-agency approach designed to achieve more effective coordination of trans-border activities. The issues dealt with by the working groups of the Subcommission were as follows: illicit drug trafficking by sea and smuggling of drugs in containers; review of the establishment and functioning of cooperation mechanisms in the region; exchange of views and information on drug-trafficking organizations; illicit trafficking in precursors; and illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of drugs in the region. The central themes of the discussions were the following: the promotion of cooperation in law enforcement and the exchange of information on drug traffickers; harmonization of various bilateral, multilateral and regional approaches to controlling substances used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including the legislative frameworks, so as to facilitate the worldwide exchange of information on suspicious transactions involving such substances; and the eradication of illicit crops and the development of programmes to advance crop substitution and alternative development projects.

III. CURRENT SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL COOPERATION

10. Statements were made by the representatives of Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan, by the observer for the Russian Federation, by the observers for the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior, the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO/Interpol) and the Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences, as well as by a representative of UNDCP.

11. The Chief of the Operational Activities Branch of UNDCP reviewed the illicit drug situation in the region and provided detailed information on memoranda of understanding and existing cooperation schemes under implementation in States in the region, the initiation of which involved the commitment at the highest political level of States having concluded memoranda of understanding. Among the memoranda of understanding already launched, she focused on the programmes undertaken in Afghanistan and the surrounding States, the border cooperation between India and Pakistan, the cross-border law enforcement programme between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan and the programmes launched in the member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Central Asia. Furthermore, she underlined that implementation of subregional programmes against illicit drug trafficking in the region required close collaboration between law enforcement agencies and all other concerned authorities, as well as between neighbouring States. In that connection, UNDCP was making a special effort to assist States in the region in putting the appropriate mechanisms in place, such as joint meetings, joint training courses and improved communication techniques.

12. Entering into cross-border agreements and arrangements within and across the region had led to more effective drug law enforcement action. Yet there still was a need to enhance the capabilities of drug law enforcement systems in the region, in areas such as the exchange of information, institution-building and the development of personnel skills, making them more compatible and more harmonized, in order to stem the flow and counteract the effects of illicit drugs. In particular, more forward-looking operating procedures were called for, making it possible to better anticipate and respond to developments and emerging trends.

13. Needs assessment, in terms of such institution- and capacity-building, would be appropriate as a means by which to determine areas for self-improvement within the region. It was desirable to achieve a marked improvement in the illicit drug situation and to contain the problem, halting spillover effects in the region.

14. Appreciation was expressed for the various forms of action being pursued in different regions and at the international level. Worthy of note in that connection were the efforts of UNDCP toward promoting bilateral and multilateral cooperation across regions. Particular reference was made to initiatives and action taking place under the auspices of UNDCP and the Economic Cooperation Organization, which, at the ministerial level and by means of memoranda of understanding, aimed at coordinating various drug control activities and sponsoring relevant projects.

15. States welcomed initiatives toward the creation of interministerial drug-control coordinating bodies and national drug-control programmes.

16. Reference was made to recent developments of relevance to the Near and Middle East region and the work of the Subcommission. In particular, concern was expressed about a new illicit drug-trafficking route that had emerged in Transcaucasia, influenced by the transit corridor through the subregion for illicit drugs from south-west Asia and from central Asia destined for Europe.

17. States agreed that illicit drugs had proliferated in the region in unprecedented proportions, and that immediate remedial measures had to be taken. Partnership was considered essential in that endeavour. In that connection, Azerbaijan proposed the adoption of an accord that would provide a region-specific perspective and approach, and outline goals, objectives and a corresponding set of measures to be pursued jointly within a given time-frame. Such an accord would represent an expression of political will that would transcend differences, capitalizing on cooperation and mutual assistance in applying technical know-how to achieve common regional purposes and benefits.

18. A number of important issues requiring urgent action to improve cooperation in common border areas in the region were as follows:

(a) Exchange of detailed information on drug-trafficking organizations;

(b) Establishment of telephone, telex, telefax and other communication links to facilitate and expedite action against drug traffickers;

(c) Appointment of drug liaison officers between States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

(d) Setting up a regional intelligence office;

(e) Establishment of joint patrolling on borders to prevent movements of illicit drugs;

(f) Promotion of the application of controlled delivery techniques by neighbouring States in the region;

(g) Exchange of samples of illicit drugs seized;

(h) Harmonization of national drug-related laws and regulations.

19. Several representatives informed the Subcommission of a number of bilateral and multilateral drug-related cooperation agreements in the form of memoranda of understanding concluded within and outside the region

with a view to coordinating action against the illicit traffic. Those agreements had resulted in significant drug seizures and interdiction.

20. It was stressed that the Russian language should be included as a working language of the Subcommission, since it was the lingua franca of the law enforcement officials of a number of new members of the Subcommission (see chapter I, section A, draft resolution II).

21. The observer for ICPO/Interpol indicated that reports received showed that the quantity of narcotic drugs being produced in the region were greater than in any other region in the world. What made the situation alarming was the emergence of a large population of persons addicted to drugs in the Near and Middle East. The link between production and consumption was self-evident in the fact that, prior to the beginning of local production, heroin abuse in the region did not exist. ICPO/Interpol provided law enforcement agencies in its member States with valuable assistance in their fight against criminal activity on an international scale, and, in the light of such support, more States in the region were invited to become members of that organization.

22. The observer for the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior informed the Subcommission of action taken by the Council to support drug control in the Arab world. He referred to a new strategy against the proliferation of drugs in the Arab world, adopted in early 1986 on the basis of Islamic law. The strategy was being implemented in the context of two five-year plans currently being executed by the secretariat of the Council and the Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences. The Council focused its attention on cooperation and coordination with all international organizations and agencies in combating the drug phenomenon and reducing its proliferation.

23. The observer for the Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences at Riyadh, formerly the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre, pointed out that the change in the name of the institute did not denote a change in its activities, the most recent of which he outlined. He expressed the unwavering commitment of the Academy to the work of the Subcommission and its resolve to join with and assist Governments of the region in eliminating illicit drugs under a policy of zero tolerance and through adopting modern scientific approaches consistent with the teaching of Islam. In the spirit of Islam, Governments also had an obligation to ensure the security and safety of their people, *inter alia*, by freeing their societies from the devastating effects of illicit drugs on the population. This was one of the future challenges facing the Subcommission.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION BY STATES OF THE REGION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE 1988 CONVENTION

24. Statements were made by the representatives of India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan and United Arab Emirates.

25. The speakers emphasized the importance of regional and universal adherence to the international drug control treaties and of strict implementation of their provisions. States of the region not parties to those treaties were urged to expedite their accession or ratification and provisionally to apply their provisions, pending the entry into force of each treaty. It was stated that the item under consideration should be included in the agenda for the thirty-third session of the Subcommission, and UNDCP was requested to evaluate and continuously monitor progress on the effective implementation of the 1988 Convention by States of the region.

26. Particular reference was made to the positive results obtained by the establishment of bilateral and multilateral agreements, especially in the area of mutual assistance. Mention was made of measures adopted to implement the provisions of article 7, concerning mutual legal assistance, article 10, on international cooperation and assistance for transit States, and article 11, concerning the use of the technique of controlled delivery.

27. One representative stated that his Government was finalizing its arrangements for ratification of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.[2]

28. Support was expressed for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on extradition by the members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of extradition procedures.

29. One representative referred to measures to ensure, as a matter of priority, preventive programmes to deal with illicit drug abuse, including the establishment of national coordinating mechanisms involving relevant agencies. Campaigns had been initiated to increase awareness, particularly among the young generation, of the harmful effects of drug abuse.

V. ORGANIZATION OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMISSION ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC AND RELATED MATTERS IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

30. The Subcommission was reminded of a decision, taken at the thirty-first session of the Subcommission, that the status of implementation of recommendations adopted at a meeting of a Subcommission, would be examined two years after their adoption. The implementation of recommendations adopted at the thirty-first session of the Subcommission would therefore be examined at the thirty-third session of the Subcommission.

31. The Subcommission included a special item to allow further review of issues that might be relevant to the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, to be held in June 1998. It also decided to continue examining the implementation of the 1988 Convention by States members of the Subcommission. To assist the Subcommission in that task, UNDCP was requested to evaluate and continuously monitor such implementation.

32. In response to a request for additional information on preventive campaigns as well as on treatment and rehabilitation of abusers, the Secretariat will make available to the thirty-third session a background document for circulation, though not for discussion.

33. In the absence of any offer to host the thirty-third session, the Secretariat was requested to send a note verbale to all States members of the Subcommission to ascertain whether one of them would be in a position to act as host to that session.

34. After discussion, the Subcommission approved the following draft provisional agenda for its thirty-third session:

1. Election of Officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda.

3. Current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation.

4. Consideration of topics by working groups:

   (a) Illicit trafficking in precursors;

   (b) Terrorist organizations involved in drug trafficking;

(c) Illicit cultivation and production of opiates;

(d) New trends in illicit traffic in drugs.

5. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Subcommission at its thirty-first session.

6. Implementation by States of the region of the provisions of the 1988 Convention.

7. Review of issues for consideration by the special session of the General Assembly on international drug control.

8. Organization of the thirty-fourth session of the Subcommission.

9. Other business.

10. Adoption of the report.

Notes

[1]*Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

[2]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.